

MINUTES
EDUCATION ADVISORY MEETING
TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
UT Thompson Conference Center
2405 Robert Dedman Drive
Room 3.102
Austin, Texas 78758
May 31, 2013 - 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER. . Dr. James “Jim” Nelson, P.E., Committee Chair, called the Education Advisory Committee meeting to order at 10:00 am on May 31, 2013, at the UT Thompson Conference Center, 2405 Robert Dedman Dr., RM 3.102, Austin, TX. (All votes are unanimous, unless otherwise noted).

1. Introduction of Committee Members and Welcome Visitors.

Katherine Banks, Ph.D., P.E.	Member
Panos Papamichalis, Ph.D., P.E.	Member
James Nelson, Ph.D., P.E.	Chair
David P. Shattuck, Ph.D.	Member
Mehdi Shadaram, Ph.D, P.E	Member
Walton E. Williamson, Ph.D, P.E.	Member

Daniel O. Wong, Ph.D., P.E. Board Member (Board liaison)

Staff Present:

Lance Kinney, P.E., Executive Director
David Howell, P.E., Director of Licensing

2. Public Comment. None.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

3. Approve the minutes from January 25, 2013, Education Advisory Committee Meeting.

It was MOVED/SECONDED to approve the January 25, 2013, Education Advisory Committee minutes as submitted. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

5. Update on Issues from the Board. Mr. Kinney and Mr. Howell reported on the following:

- **New Chair/Board Members**

Mr. Kinney reported that Dr. Wong has been appointed as Board Chairman and that Mr. Sina Nejad, P.E. and Mr. Kyle Womack, P.E. have been appointed as new Board members.

- **New Education Advisory Board Liaison**

Dr. Wong is the new Board liaison for this committee.

- **83rd Legislative Session**

- **Bill Update**

- **Sunset Update**

Mr. Howell and Mr. Kinney summarized the changes resulting from the TBPE Sunset bill (SB 204) and the SDSI Sunset bill (HB 1865). The committee members asked questions regarding implementation. Dr. Nelson asked that Board staff attend the Dean’s meeting held in December to give them an update on progress of implementation.

- **TBPE Update**

Mr. Kinney gave an update on recent staff activities.

- **Rule Changes**

Mr. Kinney gave an update on recent rule changes and foreshadowed the upcoming changes related to legislative implementation.

▪ **Strategic Plan Update**

Mr. Kinney gave an update on recent staff activities and went through a set of questions to get input from the committee for the next strategic plan. The following comments were mentioned but others will be collected by survey within a few weeks.

○ **Critical Challenges for the Professional Engineering Community**

Comments centered around the reduction of credit hours allowed for university degree plans and the requirement to ask for an exception for each plan. Faculty licensure issues and changes to the Act were also discussed.

○ **Strengths of the TBPE**

Promotion of licensure; Collaboration with engineering societies.

○ **Focus of Resources**

No comments.

○ **Success**

The perception by the general public that the TBPE is helping protect them.

○ **Barriers**

No comments.

▪ **Computer Based Testing**

Mr. Kinney reminded the committee members that the FE will be computer-based starting in January, 2014. He described the process and procedures as well as the effect it could have on the university exam prep classes.

▪ **PE/FE Exam Statistics**

Mr. Howell gave a general update on recent statistics.

▪ **Software Engineering**

Mr. Kinney informed the committee members that the Software Engineer PE exam was given for the first time in April 2013. He reminded them that this is a new path to licensure for software engineers and software engineering students should be encouraged to pursue the FE exam while in college.

▪ **Outreach**

Mr. Kinney and Mr. Howell reminded the committee members that TBPE staff and Board members are committed to outreach to PEs and potential PEs, including students. He also informed them about the agency ethics webinars which are being held quarterly. The committee discussed the idea of keeping a list of distinguished speakers or ambassadors who could be trained by the Board assist the Board with outreach activities.

6. **Issues for discussion from Committee members.**

The committee discussed the FE prep classes that are being offered at universities now and the effect that CBT implementation will have. The committee also discussed the use of the FE data as an assessment tool. Specifically, the EAC position on the use of the data for assessment; Best Practices – how it can or should be used; and how the data is used differently for engineering compared to other professions.

Committee members discussed the idea of developing an online FE prep course that all the universities could use. The members offered information regarding currently available resources and how to share in the responsibilities of future development. These items will be discussed at the Dean's meeting in December as well as the next EAC meeting.

7. **Issues for discussion for the Joint Education, Government, and Industry Meeting.**

8. **Issues for consideration at next scheduled meeting.**

The committee members would like updates on legislative implementation and Computer Based Testing implementation at the Dean's meeting in December. The development of the online FE prep course will also be discussed.

9. Adjourn.

It was MOVED/SECONDED to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 am. A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

Date Committee approved as submitted:	June 6, 2014
Date accepted by Licensing Committee:	August 28, 2014